

OCA FILE

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NOTE FOR: The Director

VIA: Dave Gries

FROM:

STAT

SUBJECT: Upcoming Senate Intelligence Committee Action on
Senator Specter's Proposal for a Statutory Inspector
General

Conversations with several Intelligence Committee staffers suggest that more action on our part is necessary to prevent approval of Senator Specter's proposal when the Committee meets to decide this issue on 27 January. Senator Specter has lobbied other Committee members.

--Senator Boren apparently is undecided although he is leaning towards giving you time for your reorganization efforts to work.

--Senator Cohen favors giving you time as a result of your correspondence with the Committee.

--Senator Hollings is against the statutory Inspector General.

--Senator Roth and Senator Bentsen have told Senator Specter that they support his proposal.

--Senator Murkowski told Senator Specter that he supports his proposal for mandatory jail sentences, but is not keen on the need for a statutory Inspector General.

We get the impression that aside from Senator Hollings, no Member strongly supports or strongly opposes the idea for a statutory Inspector General; some staffers believe the outcome is too close to call. We will continue to work with the staff, but recommend that you call Senators Bentsen, Roth, and Murkowski to explain the steps you have taken to strengthen the Inspector General's office and to request time for your efforts to work. In your conversations with these Senators, it would be important to stress the enhanced independence of the Inspector General. We also suggest that you call Senators Boren and Cohen to reinforce their support and to enlist their help in convincing other Members of the Committee. Senator Bentsen will be in Washington on 19 January; it will be difficult to contact most Members prior to 25 January when they return from recess.

cc: The Deputy Director

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